



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC 20250

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Released on August 23, 2006

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SOUTH CAROLINA EGG PRODUCTION UP

SOUTH CAROLINA'S laying flocks produced 106 million eggs during July, up 3 percent from last year, according to the USDA-NASS, South Carolina Field Office. Production totaled 87 million table eggs and 19 million hatching eggs. The number of layers averaged 5,018,000 birds, down slightly from 5,037,000 a year ago. July egg production per 100 layers was 2,112 eggs, compared with 2,045 in July 2005.

UNITED STATES egg production totaled 7.64 billion during July 2006, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.56 billion table eggs, and 1.09 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.02 billion were broiler-type and 66 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during July 2006 averaged 341 million, up 1 percent from last year. July egg production per 100 layers was 2,241 eggs, up slightly from July 2005.

SOUTH CAROLINA BROILER HATCHERY PRODUCTION INCREASES

During the month of July, SOUTH CAROLINA'S broiler hatcheries produced 19.3 million chicks, up 3 percent from last year's 18.7 million chicks.

The UNITED STATES broiler-type chicks hatched during July 2006 totaled 800 million, down 1 percent from July 2005. Eggs in incubators totaled 660 million on August 1, 2006, down 1 percent from a year earlier.